CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims by canceling claims 8 – 18 and amending claims 24 – 27, all without prejudice, and adding new claims 29 – 31, as indicated on the following listing of all the claims in the present application after this Amendment:

1. – 23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended)   Apparatus other than audio-video equipment, comprising:

a photo-detector adapted to receive infra-red radiation and generate an output signal,

a memory simultaneously storing a ~~library of a set of~~plurality of records that individually contain characteristics of a different one of a plurality of infra-red signal pattern protocols ~~one or more infra-red signal patterns~~ emitted by ~~each of~~ a plurality of different types of remote controls of audio-video equipment, the individual records additionally including a link within the record of one or more signal patterns emitted by one of the remote controls with at least one specific function,

a signal decoder connected to receive the photo-detector output and to first identify a match between the signal pattern protocols of one of the stored records and then to identify a match between a pattern of the output signal and one of the ~~stored library of~~signal patterns stored in the identified record for generating a control signal corresponding to the specific ~~audio-video~~function ~~of~~to which the matched ~~library~~signal pattern is linked within the identified record, and

a component of said apparatus other than audio-video equipment connected to receive the control signal and perform ~~a resulting designated~~the specific function.

25. (currently amended)   Apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the apparatus component includes a sound source and the ~~designated~~specific function controls the sound source.

26. (currently amended)   Apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the specific audio-video function of the matched ~~library~~signal pattern includes muting the sound of audio-

video equipment and the ~~designated~~ specific function includes muting the sound source of said apparatus other than audio-video equipment.

27.   (currently amended)   Apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the specific audio-video function of the matched ~~library~~ signal pattern includes raising or lowering the sound level of audio-video equipment and the ~~designated~~ specific function includes raising or lowering the level of the sound source of said apparatus other than audio-video equipment.

28.   (previously presented) Apparatus according to any one of claims 24 – 27, wherein said apparatus other than audio-video equipment is installed within a toy.

29.   (new) A method of remotely controlling a device other than audio-video equipment to perform one or more functions, comprising:

simultaneously storing a plurality of records in the device other than audio-video equipment of characteristics of signals emitted by a plurality of different types of remote controls of audio-video equipment, the individual records storing one or more signal patterns that are individually linked within the record with one of the one or more functions to be performed by the device,

before comparing the signal received by the device from the remote control with the signal patterns of any of the records, comparing a signal received by the device from one of the different types of remote controls with the records stored in the device to identify one of the records corresponding to the type of remote control emitting the received signal,

thereafter comparing the signal received by the device from the remote control with the one or more signal patterns within the identified record in order to identify a signal pattern within the identified record having that of the received signal, and

executing one of the one or more functions in the device that is linked in the identified record with the identified signal pattern.

30.   (new) The method of claim 29, wherein the device other than audio-video equipment is installed within a toy.

31.   (new) The method of claim 30, wherein the one or more functions of the device other than audio-video equipment includes control of a sound generator therein.